



Organization Bylaws and Membership Benefits

article I -- Name

The name of this organization shall be the Washington State Ridesharing Organization (WSRO).

Article II -- Mission

An organization dedicated to encouraging policy makers, employers and commuters to support the use of transportation alternatives to driving alone to reduce air pollution, traffic congestion, and energy consumption throughout Washington State and the Northwest.

Article III -- Fiscal Year

The Organization's fiscal year shall be January 1 through December 31.

Article IV -- Membership

Any person or organization having an interest in the mission of the Washington State Ridesharing Organization is eligible to join. The following membership classifications have been established. Additional classifications may be established. Membership benefits are to be defined by the Board of Directors and shall be listed in the WSRO Membership Brochure. Member benefit changes may be proposed by the Board of Directors and are subject to a vote of the membership.

- A. Organizational Membership** -- A public or private employer, vendor, consultant or other organization. An organizational membership includes one designated member with all benefits, including one vote. Organizations may, for an additional dues payment, designate additional members, each receiving full benefits and voting privileges. Organizational memberships must include specific individual

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member name(s). These individuals' rights and privileges cannot be transferred or substituted, except by written request to and approval by the Board of Directors.

B. Individual Membership -- Interested citizen whose membership does not represent any organization. Individual members receive full membership benefits.

C. Associate Membership -- Interested citizen or organization who shares the WSRO mission. Associates receive newsletters and WSRO workshop notices. Associates do not receive any other membership benefits.

The Board of Directors shall annually determine the amount of dues required for each membership classification and conduct a membership vote on any dues change. This determination and vote shall be made prior to the mailing of membership dues notices. Dues shall be paid on or prior to the date of the annual business meeting held during the first workshop of each fiscal year.

article v -- Membership Dues

Members of the Organization shall pay membership dues as determined annually by the Board of Directors. This determination shall be made prior to the mailing of membership dues notices. Dues shall be paid on, or prior to, the date of the annual business meeting of each fiscal year to be considered a member in good standing.

article vi -- workshops

The Organization shall hold a minimum of two workshops per year. A minimum of one workshop per year shall be held in Eastern Washington, and one in Western Washington. The annual business meeting shall be included in the first workshop held after the beginning of each fiscal year. Matters brought to a vote shall be determined by a simple majority of all ballots received. A quorum of 60% of voting members is required to conduct a vote during a business meeting. A workshop and registration fee shall be determined by the Board of Directors and levied upon each attendee.

The Organization shall provide scholarships for workshop registration fees. Travel and accommodations (if needed) will be the responsibility of the applicants. The Board of Directors will determine the dollar amount (up to 100% of the registration fee) and number of scholarships to be made available as a separate decision for each workshop. Decisions will be based on the need of the individuals and the financial feasibility for the Organization.

The availability of scholarships and instructions for applying will be advertised in the Organization's workshop registration materials and on the website. Scholarship application deadlines will be set one month before the workshop. Applications will be reviewed and awarded by the WSRO Board of Directors, and all decisions will be

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final. All scholarship applicants will be notified whether their scholarship has been approved or denied a minimum of two weeks prior to the event.

Selection of scholarship recipients will be based upon the following criteria:

1. Applicants agree to report back to their employers
2. Applicants pledge to attend workshop sessions
3. Prioritize applicants whose organizations will match the contribution from WSRO
4. Prioritize applicants who have not attended WSRO workshops before
5. Applicants' statements about why they feel that they should be given scholarships

article vii -- Voting

Members designated "Organizational" or "Individual" are eligible to vote. Each member has one vote and is eligible to hold office in the Organization. Members designated "Associate," shall not have voting privileges, nor may they hold office in the Organization. Any voting member whose dues are not paid on or prior to the date of the annual business meeting shall be considered a member in poor standing and lose their privilege of voting and holding office.

The Chairperson shall hold his/her vote in order to cast the tie-breaking vote if necessary.

article viii -- Elections

The Board of Directors shall solicit nominations of voting members interested in running for the Board of Directors. Nominations may be submitted in writing to the Director in charge of the process by any voting member. Such nominations must be received by the deadline stated in the process.

The Chairperson or his/her Director designee shall conduct the annual Board of Directors election. Elections are to be held by secret ballot and completed by November 1 of each year. Voting members may mail or fax their votes as directed on the official ballot. Two Board members, not on the ballot, shall together count all ballots. Election results shall be announced at the last meeting of the year and by mail to all members.

article ix -- Board of Directors

The Organization's Board of Directors shall consist of five members. Terms shall be staggered, with two Directors up for election one year and three Directors up for election the following year.

Directors shall hold one of the following offices: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson/Programs, Vice-Chairperson/Communications, Historian/Recorder, and Treasurer.

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Officer positions will be determined annually by the incoming Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the tone and direction of the Organization. The Board of Directors officer responsibilities shall be included as a document in the Resource Handbook.

Each officer is required to be a member in good standing and is determined by the Board of Directors to serve a one-year term. The term of office is one calendar year, from January 1 to December 31. An officer may be re-elected once, for a maximum of two years' service in any given position. After serving a two-year term of office, an officer must take a year's hiatus before becoming eligible for that position again.

Should the office of Chairperson become vacant, the Vice-Chairperson/Programs shall assume the Chairperson responsibilities and, with the concurrence of the remaining Board of Directors, appoint a voting member in good standing to fill the unexpired term of the vacancy. Should any other Board of Director position become vacant, the Chairperson, with the concurrence of the remaining Board of Directors, shall appoint a voting member in good standing to fill the unexpired term.

article x -- TEAMS

Teams are to be established by the Organization's Board of Directors to fulfill specific tasks. Team leaders shall be appointed by the team members and approved by the Board. A team leader may be re-appointed once, for a maximum of two years' service as team leader on the same team. After serving a two-year term of service, a team leader must take a year's hiatus before becoming eligible for that position again.

article Xi -- Compensation

As a volunteer-based organization, no member of the Organization is to receive, directly or indirectly, any compensation from the Organization for services performed for or on behalf of the Organization, unless specifically performed under a Personal Services Contract to fulfill the needs of the Organization as a paid staff person.

article xii -- Amendments

The Organization's bylaws may be amended, modified, or repealed in whole or in part by a simple majority vote of the membership based on mail-in ballots received.

Membership Benefits

➤ Workshops

WSRO Resource Handbook (2002)

- Reduced Workshop Fees
- Voting Privileges
- WSRO Office Eligibility
- Resource Handbook
- WSRO Review

- NewsletterEducation and Training
- Influence on Legislation
- Networking
- Collective Voice in Support of TDM
- Professional and Personal Development

Membership Classification

Organizational (\$150 plus \$50 for each additional member)

Organizational membership includes one designated member with all benefits including one vote. An organization may, for an additional cost, add members who will each receive full membership benefits.

Individual (\$75)

Individual membership is designed for interested citizens whose membership does not represent any organization. Individual members receive full membership benefits. This membership is not open to an individual whose agency or employer pays the membership fee.

Associate(\$40)

Associate membership is designed for interested citizens or organizations who share the WSRO mission. Associates receive all membership benefits except reduced workshop fees, WSRO office eligibility, and voting privileges.